(c) and (d) The Corporate Plans do help in improving the performance but it is difficult to quantify the effect solely due to the application of Corporate Planning.

Export of diamonds

2372. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of diamonds is declining rapidly;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to boost the export of diamonds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) Diamond exports from India last year did not register the type of increases they had done in the preceding year. Exports during 1984-85 remained almost at the same levels as in 1983-84. Facility to import essential equipment and tools under OGL, reduction in import duty on a number of essentail equipment and tools and sponsoring of delegations to overseas markets are some of the measures taken to boost the export of diamonds.

Robbery in the Mirzapur branch of Allahabad Bank

2373. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that robbers stormed into the Mirzapur branch of Allahabad Bank on 21st June, 1984 and demanded at gun point for the key of the iron safe from the Manager of the Bank who refused to hand over the key and in the process laid down his life at the hands of the robbers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have not given any posthumous award to the said Manager of the Bank for the courageous act and even sufficient compensation has not been paid to his widow; and

(c) if so, what corrective steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) A group of dacoits is reported to have entered the residence of the Manager of Dubar Kalan Branch of Vindhyavasini Gramin Bank, Mirzapur sponsored by the Allahabad Bank on the night of 21.6.84 and demanded at gun point the keys of the branch. On Manager's refusal to hand over the keys the dacoits shot him dead.

(b) and (c) As per information furnished to Government by the Allahabad Bank in February 1985, the family of the Manager, who was an employee of the Allahabad Bank on deputation with the Gramin Bank, has been sanctioned following facilities:—

(i) Compensation to the widow of the deceased to the extent of 30 times the emoluments of the ex-officer subject to the maximum of Rs. 50,000|- as per scheme of the Bank for death in the course of discharging his duties;

(ii) The Allahabad Bank has released an additional amount of Rs. 25,000|- as ex-gratia to the widow of late officer as a special case;

(iii) Ex-gratia amount of Rs. 5000|- to the widow of late officer as per rules of the bank;

(iv) One of the sons of the Officer has been given appointment in Bank's service in the clerical cadre on compassionate ground;

(v) Reimbursement of entire hospitalisation expenses of the widow of the deceased Officer, who had also sustained injuries, as a special case.

In addition to the above, the Government have also cleared a proposal of the Management of the Gramin Bank for payment of a gallantary award of Rs. 10,000|- to the widow of the said deceased.